



February 15, 2022

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and our 1,500 members, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of S.B. 453, AN ACT concerning adult care homes; relating to unlicensed employees; requiring unlicensed employee training courses to be taught and evaluated by professional licensed nurses; requiring a demonstration of skills to successfully complete training courses; allowing simulation experiences to be used as part of training courses

This legislation would allow Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) to teach Certified Nursing Aides (CNAs) courses under the general supervision of a Registered Nurse (RN). This bill will also allow for greater use of simulated laboratories for CNA hours, expanding the clinical training options. SB453 also allows RNs with experience in caring for the elderly or chronically ill of any age to administer the skills demonstration portion of the CNA competency evaluations regardless of the clinical setting of their experience.

The Chamber supports S.B. 453 because it would act, in part, to help alleviate the current lack of available CNAs in long-term care facilities. Every state in the nation is experiencing a shortage of healthcare workers. This puts increasing strains on an already overly stressed system, including those that provide care and those that rely on care for their wellbeing and survival. The allowances in S.B 453 are common sense and, while not a complete solution, are a tool that could and should be made available.

With this in mind, we urge the Committee to report S.B. 453 favorable for passage.

Very truly yours,

Jason P. Watkins